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PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

Customer No.: 26308 *Patent*

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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| Applicant: | Machold et al. | Docket No.: | 9542.18428-FOR |
| Serial No.: | 10/677,104 | Examiner: | Unknown |
| Filed: | 1 October 2003 | Group Art Unit: | 3738 |
| Title: | Devices, Systems, and Methods for Reshaping a Heart Valve Annulus | | |

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

## INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Please amend the application prior to the first Office Action as follows:

## CERTIFICATE OF FIRST CLASS MAIL

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail, with sufficient postage, on the date indicated below in an envelope addressed as follows: Mail Stop Petition, Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

By: Linda S. Wenzel Dated: 8 September 2005

Linda S. Wenzel